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Robert S. Allen - Paul Scott Report

Kennedy Aide's Brother Playing Dual Role in Sale of Jets to Tito

By ROBERT S. ALLEN and PAUL SCOTT

President Kennedy's review of U.S.-Yugoslavia relations is shedding some interesting light on the amazing dual role that William P. Bundy, deputy assistant secretary of defense, played in the controversial sale of jet fighters to Tito.



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While with the super-secret CIA, Bundy prepared a national intelligence estimate that was the basis for former President Eisenhower's decision to furnish this military aid to Tito.

As deputy to Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul Nitze, Bundy earlier this year reviewed the decision made by President Eisenhower and recommended that President Kennedy confirm the jet sale.

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THIS KEY CIA ESTIMATE took the line that it was better for the U.S. to provide the

jets to Yugoslavia than for Tito to turn to the Soviet Union.

Bundy also used his own CIA estimate as the basis for his Defense Department recommendation supporting the earlier Eisenhower decision. This Bundy recommendation was vigorously supported in the White House by the brother, McGeorge Bundy.

The planes, F-86D Sabrejets, were sold for the bargain price of \$10,000 each, or a total of \$1,300,000. In addition, Tito is paying \$324,000 to cover the training of pilots and maintenance crews in the U. S.

The President's review of U. S.-Yugoslavia relations, which is scheduled to be completed in about two weeks, will determine whether Tito receives \$140 million in economic aid this year.

THE CONTROVERSIAL JET SALE, which became a matter of public knowledge only recently, is going to be thoroughly investigated by Congress.

Representative Paul Kitchen, D., N.C., chairman of a special House Investigating Committee, plans to grill Secretary of State Dean Rusk on the jet deal when Rusk testifies this week on the administration's policy toward the export of strategic materials to the Soviet bloc.

Kitchen also plans to question AEC Chairman Glenn Seaborg on whether the U.S. is planning to provide Yugoslavia with two nuclear training reactors and fuel. Tito requested the atomic reactors from the U.S. through the International Atomic Energy Agency.

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